

Daniel 11:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And both these kings' hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper: for yet the end shall be at the time appointed.

Analysis

Antiochus and Ptolemy VI temporarily made alliance, both speaking lies at their negotiating table. The prophecy recognized the deceitfulness on both sides and predicted the alliance's failure—'it shall not prosper.' Human treachery cannot thwart divine purposes.

Historical Context

Daniel chapter 11 contains some of Scripture's most detailed predictive prophecy, written c. 536 BC and fulfilled with remarkable precision 200-160 BC during Ptolemaic-Seleucid conflicts. The prophecies served multiple purposes: encouraging Jewish exiles that God controls history, providing roadmap for future generations facing Hellenistic pressures, and typologically pointing to end-times Antichrist. Reformed theology sees dual fulfillment: near historical events (Antiochus Epiphanes) typifying far eschatological realities (final Antichrist). This pattern validates divine inspiration—only God knows future details with such precision. For believers under persecution, these prophecies demonstrated that tyrannical opposition is temporary, God's sovereignty absolute, and ultimate victory certain. The historical fulfillment encourages trust that eschatological promises will similarly fulfill exactly as prophesied.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does the remarkable precision of fulfilled prophecy strengthen faith in Scripture's divine origin?
2. What does the dual fulfillment pattern (historical Antiochus typifying eschatological Antichrist) teach about biblical prophecy's layered meaning?
3. How should these prophecies encourage believers facing persecution or opposition today?

Interlinear Text

וְשֵׁנִיָּהּ ׀	הַמְּלָכִים	לִבָּבָ ׀	לַמַּכַּ ׀	וְעַל	שֻׁלְחָ ׀	אֶחָד
And both	these kings	hearts	shall be to do mischief	H5921	table	at one
H8147	H4428	H3824	H4827		H7979	H259
כִּי ב	יִדְבַּרוּ	וְלֹא	תִצְלַח	כִּי	עוֹד	
lies	and they shall speak	H3808	but it shall not prosper	H3588	H5750	
H3577	H1696		H6743			
וְ	לְמוֹעֵד:					
for yet the end	shall be at the time appointed					
H7093	H4150					

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 12:2 (Parallel theme): They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak.

Psalms 64:6 (Parallel theme): They search out iniquities; they accomplish a diligent search: both the inward thought of every one of them, and the heart, is deep.

Habakkuk 2:3 (Parallel theme): For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Daniel 11:35 (Parallel theme): And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed.

Psalms 58:2 (Parallel theme): Yea, in heart ye work wickedness; ye weigh the violence of your hands in the earth.

Psalms 52:1 (Parallel theme): Why boastest thou thyself in mischief, O mighty man? the goodness of God endureth continually.

Proverbs 12:20 (Parallel theme): Deceit is in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counsellors of peace is joy.

Proverbs 26:23 (Parallel theme): Burning lips and a wicked heart are like a potsherd covered with silver dross.

Daniel 8:19 (Parallel theme): And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be.

Daniel 11:40 (Kingdom): And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.